

## **ABSTRACT**

A lightweight, portable hand tool is provided for applying an insulation-piercing electrical connector, having insulation displacement conductive elements, to an insulated electrical cable. The tool is made of injection molded, impact resistant plastic and includes a manually grippable frame, with a loading die on the frame for receiving and holding the insulation-piercing electrical connector. A manually actuatable, movable portion of the frame moves relative to electrical connector to cause the insulation on the wires to be pierced and thereby electrically connected to the connector. The tool is suitable for use with electrical cable having one or more pairs of wire, such as the typical four pair Ethernet cable.